

MEMORANDUM

November 22, 2006

TO: Thomas Manger, Chief of Police
Arthur Holmes, Director of the Department of Public Works and
Transportation

FROM: Nancy Floreen, Councilmember
Roger Berliner, Councilmember-Elect

RE: Pedestrian Safety Measures for Garrett Park

We were all saddened by the death of the young boy on Strathmore Avenue last week. This unfortunate incident highlights our need to diligently and continually focus attention on ways to enhance pedestrian safety throughout the County. The Garrett Park Town Council recently voted unanimously to request from County Government several measures to make Strathmore Avenue safer.

Speed has been an ongoing problem on this road, and the Town urgently needs a red light camera and significantly increased enforcement of the speed limit. Given the existence of three schools in immediate proximity, Strathmore Avenue is a perfect location for a permanent speed indicator. And Garrett Park should get priority attention for a speed camera.

We also believe that we must engage in a continual and intense education effort promoting the State law that drivers must stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk. This is critical to the success of pedestrian safety throughout Montgomery County. The drivers of buses, taxis, trucks, and cars, including those driven by County and Park employees all must be regularly reminded to obey that law or suffer the consequences.

Let us work together to increase and improve the ways we get that message out to the community. We propose a Roundtable on Pedestrian Safety as a first step.

cc: Isiah Leggett, County Executive-Elect
Carolyn Shawaker, Mayor of Garrett Park